

## CLAIMS

1. A woven fabric, [in particular a label], having a region formed from a ground weave which defines a background, said region including an array of spaced apart dots formed by yarns exposed on the surface of the ground weave, said array of spaced apart dots collectively defining a machine-readable code.

2. A woven fabric according to Claim 1 wherein the dots are spaced apart in both the warp and weft directions to define a two dimensional machine readable code.

3. A woven fabric according to Claim 2 wherein each dot is of the same size.

4. A woven fabric according to Claim 3 wherein each dot is defined by a predetermined number of adjacent wefts which float over a predetermined number of adjacent warps to define a dot of a predetermined shape.

5. A woven fabric according to Claim 4 wherein said predetermined shape is square.

6. A woven fabric according to any of claims 2 to 5 wherein the array of dots is arranged in a predetermined number of rows and columns.

7. A woven fabric according to Claim 1 wherein the dots are spaced in the weft direction only to define warp extending columns spaced apart in the weft direction and thereby define a one dimensional machine-readable code.

8. A process for producing a woven fabric, <sup>112</sup>in particular labels, the process comprising weaving a ground weave from weft and warp yarns, and at a predetermined region of the fabric selectively introducing dot forming yarns to create an array of dots on the surface of said ground weave to define a machine-readable code.

9. A process according to Claim 8 wherein the fabric is woven on a loom having a jacquard for controlling shedding of warp yarns and [preferably] at least in said region the jacquard is arranged to selectively control shedding of individual warp yarns.

10. A process according to Claim 9 wherein the jacquard is electronically controlled by a computer to provide the pattern information for generating the desired array of dots in said region, the computer being arranged to provide the same array of dots for each successively woven region or being arranged to provide a different array of dots for each successively woven region.

11. A process according to Claim 9 or 10 wherein a plurality of ribbons of successive labels are simultaneously produced, the jacquard being controlled to weave the same or different arrays of dots in said regions which are being simultaneously woven across the loom.